

ER 9974

21 June 1948

Mr. E. F. Willett
Assistant to Mr. Eberstadt
Committee on National Security Organization
Commission on Organization of the
Executive Branch of the Government
1626 K Street, N.W.
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Willett:

Thank you very much for your kindness in enclosing the rough draft of your notes on my discussion with the Committee last week. I am returning herewith one copy, as you requested, with a few very minor changes. I hope this will be satisfactory for your purpose.

Very sincerely yours,

SIGNED

R. H. Hillenkoetter
Rear Admiral, USN
Director of Central
Intelligence

Encl

D

Distribution:

Director

✓Central Records - w/basic ltr & encl

Note for record: Rough draft forwarded to DCI by letter of 18 June 48, signed by Mr. Willett, unclassified. Confidential classification assigned by DCI.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
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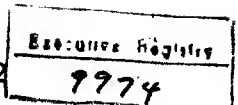
TO		INITIALS	DATE
1	Exec. Director <i>gob</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>22 June</i>
2	Exec. Registry	<i>mic</i>	<i>23 June</i>
3	Central Records		
4			
5			

FROM		INITIALS	DATE
1	Director	<i>RHH</i>	<i>6/21/48</i>
2			
3			

☐ APPROVAL ☒ INFORMATION ☐ SIGNATURE
☐ ACTION ☐ DIRECT REPLY ☒ RETURN *to Dir*
☐ COMMENT ☐ PREPARATION OF REPLY ☐ DISPATCH
☐ CONCURRENCE ☐ RECOMMENDATION ☐ FILE

REMARKS: *(3) Record and return to Director*

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COMMISSION ON ORGANIZATION
OF THE
EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF THE GOVERNMENT

June 18, 1948

1626 K STREET NW.
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Rear Admiral R. H. Hillenkoetter
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Admiral Hillenkoetter:

At the request of Mr. Eberstadt, I am enclosing two copies of a rough draft of my notes on your discussion with the Committee on the National Security Organization of the Commission on Organization of the Executive Branch of the Government held here last week.

Will you kindly return to me one of the enclosed copies, noting thereon any changes that you may wish made.

Very truly yours,

E. F. Willett

E. F. Willett,
Assistant to Mr. Eberstadt

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2. (2:45 P.M.)

Admiral Hillenkoetter - Director of the Central Intelligence Agency

Admiral Hillenkoetter opened his remarks by stating that the National Security Council is a sort of Board of Directors for the Central Intelligence Agency. He then discussed the organizational setup and operations of that agency, stating that its activities are divided into the following four main branches:

A. Collecting and disseminating information - the nature of the activities of this branch is evident and its chief function is to centralize work of this type.

B. Research and Evaluation - this branch takes the raw intelligence and evaluates it.

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C. ~~S. Operations~~ Operations - the work of the ~~Special~~ Operations Branch is broken down into four sections as follows:

1. Foreign Document Translation - Seventy tons of German documents and 30 tons of Japanese documents remain to be translated and appraised. This heavy backlog of work tends to restrict to some extent the attention that the division would otherwise give to translation of current documents, papers, periodicals, etc.

3. Foreign Broadcast Monitoring - This division listens to about two million words a day of foreign broadcasts, particularly Russian. (In Russia due to vast distances and poor mail service much routine government operational matter is handled by radio and not in code.)

4. Espionage and Counter-Espionage.

June 8

Afternoon Meeting

D. Personnel - Administration - Training

The CIA has the benefit of an Intelligence Advisory Committee consisting of representatives of other government agencies such as State, Army, Navy, Air, Atomic Research, ~~etc.~~ and Joint Chiefs of Staff.

In answer to a question from Mr. Cole, Admiral Hillenkoetter stated that about 75% of the output of the CIA consisted of information coordinated by it from overt material furnished by outside groups and agencies; that about 15% was covert material based upon espionage and counter-espionage; that about 5% was deduction based upon the above material; and that about 5% was not much more than guesswork. He stated further that there may be some duplication of effort but that it is definitely decreasing and that from the standpoint of national security duplication is far less serious than having any gaps in coverage.

In answer to a question from Mr. McCloy, Admiral Hillenkoetter stated that in his opinion CIA has been working fairly well in view of the fact that it is only ten months old. He feels some need of an enforcing authority when questions arise in order to avoid the constant necessity of compromise, although he feels that troubles of this character are gradually being eliminated. He said that at present only 1.7% of the personnel is military and that the figure is still falling ultimately being expected to reach about 1.2%.

In answer to a question from Mr. Middlebush, Admiral Hillenkoetter stated that there was a regularly organized training program for training personnel in different categories and that the CIA takes the initiative in



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Afternoon Meeting 25X1



He stated that the personnel of the agency is still expanding and that in his opinion it was not seriously handicapped in getting efficient personnel through any unduly inadequate salary scale. (He mentioned that many people liked to work for the agency almost regardless of the pay involved.)

The admiral stated further that Mr. Dohevan thinks the CIA should report directly to the President although he himself thinks not, stating that in his opinion the present setup works better from the practical viewpoint and that there are definite advantages in going through the Secretaries in the Security Council.

In response to a question from Mr. Baldwin, the admiral stated that in his opinion it made little difference whether the head of the agency was military or civilian.

In answer to a question from Mr. McCloy, the admiral stated that their function is to give out the facts and that others decide how to use those facts. He mentioned that they have a system of gathering reports from other agencies which shows that the other agencies are making increasing use of the CIA reports and are finding them increasingly valuable.